

FILE NOTE:

BY: Steve Breithaupt *JS*

RE: Avery Landing Petroleum Contamination Summary of Meeting on
December 15, 1988 with Responsible Parties

The following people were in attendance at the meeting to discuss the petroleum contamination near Avery, Idaho:

Bill Dameworth	Potlatch Corporation
Allan Stockman	Federal Highway Admin., Vancouver, WA
Gary Reeve	Potlatch Corporation (Land Agent)
Norm Winton	Potlatch Corporation (Woodland Manager)
Greg Rapp	Potlatch Corporation
Mike Weger	Potlatch Corporation, St. Maries
Dale McGreer	Potlatch Corporation, Lewiston
Jeff Lawlor	Panhandle Health District
Alex Tula	Hart Crowser, Inc.
Richard Pierce	Hart Crowser, Inc.
Pat S. Allen	Shoshone County
Jim Vergobbi	Shoshone County Commissioner
Joe Baldwin	IDHW-DEQ
Ed Tulloch	IDHW-DEQ
Steve Breithaupt	IDHW-DEQ
David Theriault	Avery, ID

The agenda included DEQ's historical involvement with the site, regulations pertaining to groundwater contamination and criteria for clean-up, additional investigations needed, proposed methodologies for clean-up, and responsibility for clean-up. DEQ's recent involvement with the spill was presented and included the following:

- * complaint investigation
- * the finding of petroleum product on the bank of the St. Joe and a sheen
- * identification of Potlatch as a property owner
- * request by DEQ for assessment of the contamination by Potlatch
- * preliminary evaluation by Potlatch of the extent of contamination
- * identification of Theriault and the Federal Highway Administration as property owners

The DEQ regulations requiring clean-up were discussed in a general sense; that is, no specific regulations were read. The provision for protecting groundwater to drinking water standards and draft clean-

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up criteria for petroleum spills were discussed. Additional investigations that were felt to be necessary were stated and include the following:

- * determination of the distribution of free product
- * measurement of PAH (for cresote) and PCB at one location
- * B, T, X, and E where there is free product
- * sampling the existing well for TPH

A discussion ensued with the representatives from Hart Crowser and Potlatch Corporation. They were concerned about a "witch hunt" for toxic/hazardous materials. We expressed that that was not our interest, but rather to determine, where there was reason to believe they were present, only the stated contaminants at one or two locations. They were simply to serve as an index for their presence or absence. Potlatch agreed to sample the free product for PCB, as well as benzene in the existing down gradient well and any other well they installed down gradient that was outside the lense of free product. No consensus was arrived at for creosote sampling.

Potlatch and Hart Crowser were asked what methodology was proposed for cleaning up the spill. A recovery trench, approximately 200 feet in length, was discussed. The actual length of the trench would depend on the size of the free product lense. Removal of the stream bank was thought not to be an option. It became evident that there was a misunderstanding on this point. It was thought that the bank could not be removed because of problems with permitting, but DEQ pointed out that was not the case because of the need to clean this contaminated site. Permits would be necessary, but they would not be difficult to obtain. Continuing their proposal, Hart Crowser said the trench would be backfilled and pumps installed to remove water and to skim off petroleum. Pumped water would be discharged on the hillside of the new road and not to surface water. The federal Highway Administration representative said there was no problem with that, as far as their road construction was concerned. The plan is to begin drilling in the spring, 1989, for the further tests that are needed. Construction would start in July or August, 1989, and would take three to five years for completion of the clean-up. Concern was expressed by DEQ that pumping of water from the trench may pull more water from the river than from the spill site. The response was that would have to be examined in the field by Hart Crowser's hydrogeological staff. Prior to starting, a work plan will be submitted for DEQ review.

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The discussion then turned to the financial responsibility of the various parties. DEQ stated that there are no state funds with which to carry out a clean-up, and property owners are responsible for continuing damages by not cleaning it up. Potlatch expressed that they were showing good faith by the work they have done and by hiring a consultant. However, before they would proceed with clean-up, they wished to have documentation of the legal basis requiring clean-up by current property owners, who did not cause the petroleum spill, of a non-hazardous, petroleum waste site. The Federal Highway Administration asked for this as well. Hart Crowser asked about the use of state matching funds for Superfund. DEQ thought it probable that there was no money available there.

The meeting was concluded with the following actions agreed upon: DEQ would obtain the legal opinions and/or documentation stated above and a meeting would take place subsequent to obtaining the information to discuss apportioning the costs between the responsible parties.

SB/pvc

cc: Al Murrey
Larry Koenig
Cathy Chertudi
Ed Tulloch
Joe Baldwin
Bill Dameworth, Potlatch
Dave Theriault, Private Individual
Allan Stockman, FHA
Pat Allen, Shoshone County
Alex Tula, Hart Crowser

St. Joe River Rd. - Along oil contamination 12/15/88
Coordination Mtg in Coeur d'Alene

- LAST YEAR -
fisherman complained to State Health Dept about
oil slick in water
- Health Dept. started to investigate
- Pot. later has done some test pit investigations
② Action line (16+17) and also some
actual drilling
- State regulations are limited - state that
ground waters are to be kept @ drinking water
standards
- Health Dept. has developed a draft guideline about
clean up of sites contaminated w/ petroleum - esp.
storage tanks
- site inventory is not completed yet, but it appears
extensive -
Hydro carbons are the major concern - not volatiles
- some PCB's
- Health Dept. still has not felt this is a
Hazardous waste - it is a water quality
problem! Clean water Act. governs
- several water wells in area
- no fish kill in river ever seen or reported
- discussion addressed what type of testing is needed
for probable contaminants - they are 40 years old -
- objective is to remove the "free product" - the
residual oil in soil is not a major problem ↑ from surface &

- EPA has been told of problem they are letting the state handle it now
- need a benzene test @ water well.
- one hole found 5' or more of RR ties in ground - possible contamination?

Hot Crouse

- recommends an intercept trench sep.
- additional drilling to set wells for monitoring
- Dept of Health is going to send out some legal interpretation on who is responsible to pay w/in a month
- Potlatch is not going to do more until a legal responsibility is shown
- possible cleanup this summer
- explained rd. const. schedule